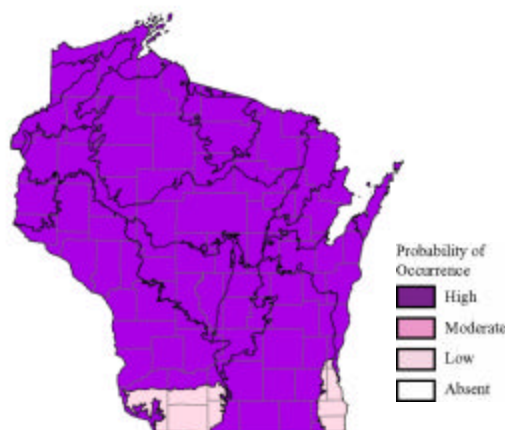


Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*)

Species Assessment Scores*

State rarity:	2
State threats:	3
State population trend:	5
Global abundance:	2
Global distribution:	3
Global threats:	2
Global population trend:	4
Mean Risk Score:	3
Area of importance:	5

* Please see the [Description of Vertebrate Species Summaries \(Section 3.1.1\)](#) for definitions of criteria and scores.



Ecological Landscape Associations

Please note that this is not a range map. Shading does not imply that the species is present throughout the Landscape, but represents the probability that the species occurs somewhere in the Landscape.

Landscape-community Combinations of Highest Ecological Priority

Ecological Landscape	Community
Central Lake Michigan Coastal	Great Lakes Ridge and Swale
Central Lake Michigan Coastal	Northern mesic forest
Central Sand Plains	Floodplain forest
Central Sand Plains	Northern mesic forest
Forest Transition	Northern mesic forest
North Central Forest	Hardwood swamp
North Central Forest	Northern mesic forest
Northeast Sands	Northern dry forest
Northeast Sands	Northern dry-mesic forest
Northeast Sands	Northern mesic forest
Northern Highland	Northern dry-mesic forest
Northern Highland	Northern mesic forest
Northern Lake Michigan Coastal	Great Lakes Ridge and Swale
Northern Lake Michigan Coastal	Northern mesic forest
Northwest Lowlands	Northern mesic forest
Northwest Sands	Northern dry forest
Northwest Sands	Northern dry-mesic forest
Southeast Glacial Plains	Floodplain forest
Southeast Glacial Plains	Hardwood swamp
Superior Coastal Plain	Boreal forest
Superior Coastal Plain	Northern mesic forest
Western Coulee and Ridges	Floodplain forest

Threats and Issues

- Least Flycatchers are forest generalists that needs large blocks of interior forest. Conversion to non-forest and forest fragmentation from housing or road development are serious threats.
- Like all long-distance migrants, the increasing amounts of towers, lighted tall buildings, and loss of habitat in key migratory areas may be playing a role in limiting populations.

- Susceptible to cowbird nest parasitism.

Priority Conservation Actions

- Maintain large blocks of "working" forests for this and other forest generalists. Maintaining the size and quality of existing forests and adding forest acreages where appropriate will benefit this species.
- Research is needed to determine if ATV trails and/or hiking trails fragment the forest.
- Create partnerships with urban decision makers to provide high-quality habitat in the form of parks, backyards, etc. and limit or mitigate impacts of lighted buildings, towers, etc.
- Look for strong partnerships on wintering grounds in Central and South America to conserve this and all other Neotropical migrants.